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BURTON LATIMER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of Burton Latimer

for the Year 1937

by

Thomas O. Garland, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

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Health Centre,
Market Street,
Kettering.
May, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members
of the
Burton Latimer Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report
on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Urban
District for 1937.

I would like to thank the Public Health Committee,
the Clerk, Mr. Harvey, and the Sanitary Inspector,
Mr. Borman, for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS O. GARLAND,
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937 :—

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Area (Acres)	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756
Population	3,465	3,401	3,412	3,477	3,439
No. of Live Births	38	42	36	39	33
Legitimate	37	41	35	39	31
Illegitimate	1	1	1	—	2
Birth rate per 1,000 population	11·0	12·0	10·6	11·21	9·6
No. of Still births	2	2	1	1	4
Legitimate	2	2	1	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..	50·0	45·45	27·03	25·0	108·11
Rate per 1,000 population	0·58	0·59	0·29	0·29	1·16
No. of Deaths	36	34	34	33	36
Death rate per 1,000 population (corrected) ..	10·4	9·9	9·9	9·59	10·57
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	79	73	28	25·64	90·91
Total Maternal Deaths ..	—	1	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal causes	—	1	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·57	0·29	0·29	1·15	0·87
Death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis ..	0·87	0·29	0·29	1·15	0·87

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.							Rate per 1,000 live births.			
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Total deaths under 1 year.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years.
England and Wales ..	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	58	5.8
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ..	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	62	7.9
148 Smaller Towns (resident populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	55	3.2
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	60	12.0
Burton Latimer Urban District	9.6	1.16	10.57	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58	90.91	0.00

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows

The maternal mortality rates for Burton Latimer Urban District

Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
{ per 1,000 live births 0.97	2.26	3.23
{ per 1,000 total births 0.94	2.17	3.11
{ per 1,000 live births Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
{ per 1,000 total births Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Acres)	2,756
----------------------	-------

Registrar-General's estimate of resident Population mid-1937	3,439
---	-------

No. of inhabited Houses (mid-1937) according to Rate Books	1,045
---	-------

Rateable value	£13,886
------------------------	---------

Sum represented by 1d. rate	£51 0s. 8½d.
-------------------------------------	--------------

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows :

Boot and Shoe Manufacture.

Clothing Manufacture

Iron-stone quarrying.

Farming.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
LIVE BIRTHS—						
Legitimate	..	..	..	31	15	16
Illegitimate	..	..	..	2	—	2
Totals				33	15	18
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population				..	9·6	
				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
STILL BIRTHS—				4	2	2
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births				..	..	108·11
				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
DEATHS ..	..	..	..	36	23	13
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					10·57	
Deaths from puerperal causes :—						
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births				..	..	Nil.
Death rate of infants under one year of age :—						
All infants per 1,000 live births				..	..	90·91
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						96·77
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.

As compared with the year 1936 the death rate is higher by 0·98 per 1,000 of the population and the birth rate is lower by 1·61.

The death-rate exceeds the birth rate by 0·97 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of deaths registered was 36 of which 23 were males and 13 were females.

The crude death rate per 1,000 population for the year 1937 was 10·47 which, multiplied by the comparability factor 1·01, supplied by the Registrar-General, gave a corrected death rate of 10·57 as compared with 12·4 for England and Wales. This death rate of 10·57 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex constitution of the population of Burton Latimer were distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
All Causes	23	13	36
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Measles	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough.. .. .	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Influenza	—	—	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	2	3
10. Other tuberculous diseases	—	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis, etc.	—	—	—
13. Cancer	—	2	2
14. Diabetes	—	—	—
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	1	3
16. Heart Disease	9	1	10
17. Aneurism	—	—	—
18. Other circulatory diseases	2	1	3
19. Bronchitis.. .. .	2	1	3
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	1	—	1
21. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—
22. Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—
23. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	—
24. Appendicitis	—	—	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—
26. Other diseases of Liver	1	—	1
27. Other digestive diseases	1	1	2
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	—	—
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
30. Other puerperal causes	—	—	—
31. Congenital debility, Premature Birth, etc.	—	2	2
32. Senility	1	—	1
33. Suicide	—	—	—
34. Other violence	2	—	2
35. Other defined diseases	1	—	1
(a) Smallpox	—	—	—
(b) Polio-myelitis	—	—	—
(c) Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	2	2

Of the total deaths, heart disease accounted for 27·8 per cent ; cerebral haemorrhage, 8·3 per cent. ; respiratory tuberculosis, 8·3 per cent., and bronchitis, 8·3 per cent.

Two deaths (5·6 per cent.) were due to cancer.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for Desborough Urban District, Rothwell Urban District and Kettering Rural District and is, in addition, Assistant County Medical Officer.

The office of Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor is a joint appointment and the officer holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Clinical Research Association, Limited, London, and at the County Public Health Laboratory and at the Northampton General Hospital.

No. of examinations made during 1937 :—

Swabs (for Diphtheria)	2
Sputum	1

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by a motor ambulance provided and maintained by the Kettering Joint Hospital Board, and non-infectious and accident cases are removed by ambulance under the efficient administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

(1) General. The Burton Latimer Nursing Association affiliated to the County Nursing Association makes the services of a nurse available for general cases.

(2) Infectious Diseases. The services of a special nurse in certain specified cases of infectious diseases are available under arrangements made between the Local and County Nursing Association and the County Council.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Persons suffering from venereal diseases are treated at Northampton General Hospital by arrangement with the County Public Health Department.

The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held in Kettering and children from Burton Latimer may attend by arrangement with the County Public Health Department.

Under the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held in Burton Latimer.

(e) HOSPITALS.

The following hospitals are available for inhabitants of Burton Latimer :—

Kettering Infectious Diseases Joint Hospital.

Rushden House Sanatorium.

Kettering and District General Hospital.

London Road Public Assistance Hospital, Kettering.

Northampton General Hospital.

Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital.

SECTIONS C AND E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Report by G. C. Borman, Cert.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

(1) WATER.

The quantity of water pumped during 1937 was 16,650,700 gallons. A daily average of 45,618 gallons.

The Council now has an auxiliary supply from the Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council's well at Woodford, and the Council commenced drawing from this on July 1st.

Since then they have taken 3,544,200 gallons from this source. A daily average of 19,262 gallons making an average daily consumption of 64,880 gallons.

The arrangement for an emergency supply from Kettering Urban District Council has now been terminated.

During the year the following extensions of mains were carried out :—

Kettering—Cranford Road	306 yards of 3ins. main.
Bridle Road	153 " " "
Finedon Station Road	90 " " "
Higham Hill	300 " " "
Whitney Road	340 " " "

and a length of 147 yards of 3ins. main was renewed in Wood Lane, Weekley.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No extension of the Council's sewers has been carried out but two private builders have laid approximately 300 and 200 yards of 6ins. sewer respectively on private estates and connected to the Council's sewers.

No improvements have been carried out to the Council's Sewerage Disposal Works during the year but the Council are now obtaining estimates for enlarging and reconstructing the works.

The small settling tanks were cleaned out twice during the year and the large tanks once.

(3) (a) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are no closets on the conservancy system in the Urban part of the District all being on the water carriage system.

(b) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scavenging is carried out by means of a horse-drawn scavenging cart, two men being regularly employed on the work.

All house refuse is collected weekly and deposited at the tip.

The tip is situated about a mile from the town and about half-a-mile from the nearest house.

The Council have continued their contract with the British Ratin Company to treat the tip at six-weekly intervals to keep down the number of rats and the treatment appears to be successful.

A small number of cesspools in the outlying part of the town are cleansed privately and not by the Local Authority.

(c) SANITARY INSPECTION.

(1) NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTION.

Total Number 201. Nature :—

(1)	After Infectious Diseases	..	..	5
(2)	Upon Complaints	..	..	9
(3)	For detection of nuisances	..	..	27
(4)	Re-inspections	..	..	19
(5)	New Houses before occupation	..	..	50
(6)	Out-workers	..	..	38
(7)	Workshops	..	..	23
(8)	Milkshops and Dairies	..	..	11

(2) NOTICES, ETC., SERVED.

Statutory	..	..	..	1
Informal (including letters)	..	..	..	25

(3) RESULT OF SERVICE.

Nuisances were abated without legal proceedings being necessary.

(4) BAKEHOUSES, FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

All Workshops and Bakehouses were inspected and nuisances remedied as tabulated below :—

Inspections	..	..	..	..	23
Written Notices	..	..	..	..	0
Prosecutions	..	..	..	..	0
Defects found	..	..	..	..	0
Defects remedied	..	..	..	..	0

The following factories and workshops were inspected by the Medical Officer of Health :—

Boot Factories	..	..	..	..	4
Clothing Factories	..	..	..	..	2
Card-board Box Factories			..	..	1
Tannery	..	..	..	..	1
Aerated Water Factory	..	..	..	..	1
Cereal Food Factory	..	..	..	..	1
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	6
					—
					16
					—

The lack of towels, soap and toilet rolls in the Boot Factories is worthy of comment. The exclusion of fresh air is definitely detrimental to the health of the workers. The ventilating systems in the Boot Factories may not be ideal but more use could be made of existing windows to promote cross ventilation without discomfort to the workers. Conditions in the cardboard box factory and in one clothing factory and the tannery were good. The bakehouses were reasonably clean.

(5) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In all cases of infectious disease the room and where necessary the whole house was thoroughly disinfected after the removal of the patient to hospital or in cases which were nursed at home, after the patient's recovery. If considered necessary by the Medical Officer of Health bedding is burnt and the owner compensated, and an arrangement has been made with Kettering Urban District Council for bedding to be steam disinfected if not required to be destroyed.

(6) SUMMARY OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Smoke and water tests on drains	..	56
Drains found defective	.. ..	1
New closet pans	.. ..	6
Privies connected to W.C.'s	.. ..	0
Defective Gullies	.. ..	0
Drains cleared	.. ..	9
Offensive accumulations removed	..	1
Wells and pumps repaired	.. ..	0
Animals improperly kept	.. ..	0
Overcrowding	.. ..	4
Samples of Water for Analysis	.. ..	3
House drains re-laid	.. ..	1
Defective wells	.. ..	0
Other nuisances	.. ..	0

No legal proceedings were necessary, letters or preliminary notices proving sufficient in each case.

(7) SHOPS ACT.

No action was necessary during the year under this Act.

(8) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was taken during the year under this heading.

(9) SWIMMING POOLS.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the district. This is filled with spring water which has been analysed by the County Medical Officer of Health and found satisfactory and has an efficient filtration and chlorination plant.

It is of modern construction with footbaths for bathers and adequate sanitary conveniences.

(10) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No action was necessary under this heading.

(11) SCHOOLS.

The schools are under the direct supervision of the County Authority. The statutory inspection of the children is carried out by the School Medical Officers.

The control of infectious disease among the school children is under the District Medical Officer of Health in conjunction with the School Medical Officer of the County Council.

The water supply to the schools is from the Council's main.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

All the Milkshops and Dairies in the district have been regularly inspected. Fourteen inspections were made.

The purity of the milk supply is controlled by the Joint Dairies and Cowsheds Committee which operates in the district (*vide* Veterinary Inspector's Annual Report at end).

A survey was made by the Medical Officer of Health of milk producers' premises other than accredited producers, and was included in a Special Report to Kettering Urban and Rural Districts and Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell Urban Districts Joint Committee, *re* Dairies, Cowsheds, etc. Nine producers were visited. Three of these were found to be satis-

factory, 5 lacked a proper place in which to store milk and one cowshed was defective. When the 6 defaulters were notified of the requirements of the Milk and Dairies, Order, 1926, 4 provided proper milk stores and the remaining 2 have since ceased to sell milk.

(b) MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 2 licensed slaughterhouses in the District. Both were regularly inspected during the year and carcasses examined. No carcasses were condemned.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—
 - 1 (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) 71
 - (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose .. 75
 - 2 (a) No. of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 32
 - (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose .. 38
 - 3 No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3
 - 4 No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. 29
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 11
- 3 ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—
 - (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
 - 1 No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 26

2	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a)	By owners	25
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners..	—
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	
1	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
2	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners..	0
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
2	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
2	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders have been determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4.	HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART 4. OVERCROWDING :—	
(a) 1	No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	0
2	No. of families dwelling therein	0
3	No. of persons dwelling therein	0
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c) 1	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	4
2	No. of persons concerned in such cases..	30
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases, excluding tuberculosis, notified during the year was 15. This figure shows a decrease of 4 on the number for 1936 and compares with 30 for 1935, 10 for 1934, 14 for 1933, 24 for 1932 and 42 for 1931.

An analysis of the notified cases appears in the following table :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1937.

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 3 yrs.	3 and under 4 yrs.	4 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 10 yrs.	10 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 20 yrs.	20 and under 35 yrs.	35 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total	15	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	3	4	1	1	3	1

NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED EACH MONTH, 1937.

The greatest number of notifications were received during the 1st quarter of the year.

Month	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Total
January ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	5
February ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
March	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
May	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
June	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
July	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
August ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
October ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
November ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total ..	—	2	1	—	—	1	9	2	15

SMALLPOX. No case of this disease occurred in the Urban District during the year 1937.

SCARLET FEVER. Two cases of scarlet fever were notified showing a decrease of 2 on the number for last year. One was removed to hospital; the other case was nursed at home under favourable conditions. Both were children of school age.

Scarlet fever antitoxin is available, free of charge, to practitioners for the treatment of necessitous cases of scarlet fever.

DIPHTHERIA. There was 1 notification which shows a decrease of 3 on the number for last year. The case was a child of school age, and was removed to hospital.

Suspicious cases may be verified by bacteriological examination. For this purpose swab outfits are supplied to medical practitioners and specimens examined by the Clinical Research Association, Limited, London, and at the Northampton General Hospital Bacteriological Department, are reported on at the expense of the Local Authority.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied free to practitioners for use in necessitous cases of diphtheria treated at home or prior to removal to hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. During the year 1 case of puerperal pyrexia was notified, and was removed to hospital.

Cases of puerperal pyrexia requiring treatment are admitted to Kettering and District General Hospital or to Northampton General Hospital.

The services of a consulting obstetrician are made available to medical practitioners, by the Northamptonshire County Council, for patients unable to afford a specialist's fee.

PNEUMONIA. Nine cases of pneumonia were notified during the year, showing a decrease of 5 on the number for last year.

All cases were nursed at home.

There was one death.

ERYSIPELAS. There were 2 notifications of this disease. Both cases were nursed at home under favourable conditions. There were no deaths.

CHICKENPOX. A child suffering from burns complicated by chickenpox was treated in the Isolation Hospital.

The following is a Summary of Infectious Cases treated in Hospital and the Number of Admissions each Month.

Disease.	In Hospital Jan. 1st., 1937	Admitted during 1937	Discharged during 1937	Died.	In Hospital Jan., 1938
Scarlet Fever ..	—	1	1	—	—
Diphtheria	—	1	1	—	—
Chickenpox ..	—	1	1	—	—
Total ..	—	3	3	—	—

Month.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria.	Chickenpox.
January	1	—	1
February	—	1	—
March	—	—	—
April	—	—	—
May	—	—	—
June	—	—	—
July	—	—	—
August	—	—	—
September	—	—	—
October	—	—	—
November	—	—	—
December	—	—	—
Total	1	1	1

BURTON LATIMER.

TUBERCULOSIS. The following figures show the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1937 :—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	7	7	14
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	4	1	5
			—
			19
			—

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1937 as compared with 4 in 1936.

Particulars of new cases and deaths from the disease are shown below :—

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'ry		Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'ry	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—

The death rate from all forms of tuberculosis per 1,000 population was 0·87 as compared with 1·15 for 1936, 0·29 for 1935, 0·29 for 1934, and 0·87 for 1933.

The occupations of the cases at the time of notification were

Farmer	1
Shoehand	2

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These Regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis from engaging in the milk trade. It was unnecessary to take action under these Regulations during 1937.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 :—No action was taken under this Section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis, which is a serious risk to others, may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

KETTERING, ETC., JOINT COMMITTEE RE DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, ETC.

ANNUAL REPORT OF VETERINARY INSPECTOR, 1937.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to report that during the year ended 31st December, 1937, inspections and re-inspections of premises in the occupation of registered cowkeepers have been made to the number of 608, and of dairy cows in milk to the number of 7,503, an increase as compared with the previous year of four premises and 340 animals.

Of the 608 premises inspected, 129 are in the occupation of Accredited producers, and 479 are in respect of non-accredited herds.

The following is a list of the sanitary or veterinary defects met with during the year, set out under the several headings of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 :—

Diseased or deranged udders, Accredited	
Herds	58
Diseased or deranged udders, Non-	
accredited Herds	75
Cows detected and slaughtered under the	
Tuberculosis Order, 1925	14
General cleanliness deficient ..	8
Cleanliness of animals neglected ..	20
Limewashing required	8
Accumulated manure	15
Insufficient natural light	1
Floors requiring cleansing or repair ..	13
Other repairs to buildings needed ..	5
Cooling unsatisfactory	1
Samples of milk sent for Bacteriological	
Test	116

Of the fourteen cows dealt with and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, on post-mortem examination ten were found to be affected to an advanced degree and in four cases the disease was not advanced. Of these fourteen cases of open tuberculosis, seven were discovered during routine inspection and the remainder were reported by owners as suspected cases.

The number of diseased or deranged udders (133) is somewhat less than those of the previous year (145). Samples of milk from udders showing suspicious evidence of tuberculosis have been sent to the laboratory for examination, of which only two were shown to contain tubercle bacilli.

The whole of the diseased or deranged udders except those affected with tuberculosis were due to acute or chronic mastitis, wounds or teat eruptions, abscesses or injuries, and owners were invariably warned against the sale of milk in these cases, pending recovery.

The number of premises concerning which the general sanitary conditions were bad or unsatisfactory was 64 as compared with 74 and 65 respectively in the two previous years. The practice carried out by the Sanitary Officials of submitting samples of market milk for bacteriological examination has been continued on a progressively larger scale with, I think I may say, less satisfactory or convincing results to the Committee.

This is due to the substitution of the methylene blue reaction test in place of the bacterial plate count formerly employed, bacteriologists having decided that the last-named method possesses a very wide margin of error.

Examination of the reports on the last 284 samples forwarded to the Laboratory for examination for bacterial contamination shows that 154 have been certified as good, 20 as moderate and 110 as bad.

Practically the whole of the samples certified as bad, however, are confined to those examined during the hot summer months, the index rising or falling consistently in accordance with the seasonal temperatures.

It is acknowledged, I think, that whereas the methylene blue test is less faulty than the previous bacterial count, there is, at present, no very satisfactory method of estimating the practical importance of bacterial contamination of samples of market milk which must, of necessity, be taken under ordinary commercial conditions as regards temperatures, transport, utensils, etc., so that the results, whether good, bad or indifferent, can best be regarded as an approximate guide to hygienic quality.

The number of producers of accredited milk is now 34, and of non-accredited owners, 118.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) TREVOR F. SPENCER, M.R.C.V.S.

March, 1938.

